

**April 2014** 

# Free crime prevention events

#### **Burglary Prevention**

**April 14** 901 Shelby St. 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

### April 23

748 Massachusetts Ave. 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

### Power Against Fraud

**April 17** 9035 E. 21st St. 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

#### **April 30** 1011 Main St. 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## A message from Prosecutor Terry Curry

Incidents of high profile crime in recent months have sparked important community discussions at every level, from neighborhood meetings to the City-County Council. While admittedly not the only source of such recent crime, the understaffing of Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department has certainly stifled our ability to effectively respond. A world class city deserves a police force that is equipped to be proactive, not simply reactive to crime. And our residents deserve the sense of security that comes from police visibility and accessibility, knowing that officers are nearby and available to prevent and promptly respond to public safety problems.

In the Prosecutor's Office, our job is likewise affected by inadequate staffing of IMPD. There is a direct correlation between understaffing, investigations, and the quality of cases our deputy prosecutors are called upon to prosecute.

A commission has been established by the City-County Council to determine the appropriate and necessary number of IMPD officers, to make recommendations regarding a policing model, and to review long-term funding options for public safety staffing. The commission is expected to make its final report in the coming weeks, and its work and meetings are open to the public. I encourage you to weigh in on the discussion.

The decision to adequately fund and staff our police force affects every individual living and working in our county, and I hope that you will weigh in with your concerns and suggested solutions.

# Trauma kits provided to every IMPD officer



The creative idea of IMPD Officer Wayne Shelton was fulfilled this month when the Indianapolis Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #86, and The Father's House completed its project to provide trauma kits to every IMPD officer. These kits contain lifesaving materials such as specially designed tourniquets and airway management equipment providing officers with valuable tools to deploy during volatile incidents.

"By thinking big and acting big we can accomplish things like this." Prosecutor Curry stated at the announcement that a fundraising goal was reached to outfit more than 1,500 IMPD officers with life saving trauma kits. "Special thanks to IMPD Officer Wayne Shelton, an investigator assigned to the Marion County Prosecutor's Office, for his vision in this effort and to all of the community supporters who made this possible."

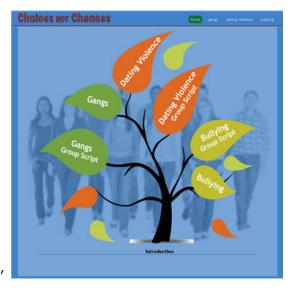
# Marion County Prosecutor and U.S. Attorney collaborate to focus on gun-related crimes

Recently, an Indianapolis man was sentenced to 37 months in federal prison for illegally possessing a firearm as a convicted felon. The conviction was a joint prosecution effort between the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Marion County Prosecutor's Office. In early 2011, the Violent Crime Initiative was formed in collaboration between the two offices and local law enforcement to target drug traffickers and criminals using firearms in their illegal activities.

The initiative has produced a significant increase in the number of gunrelated charges brought federally. In the year preceding the initiative, 14 defendants were charged with federal gun crimes by the U.S. Attorney's Office. In the three years since, more than 225 defendants have been charged. Under Prosecutor Curry's direction, several Marion Co. prosecutors have been cross-designated with the U.S. Attorney's Office to screen gun cases and determine whether to prosecute repeat violent offenders in state court or in federal court.

## Help kids make good choices and not take chances

Did you know our deputy prosecutors filed more than 3,600 juvenile delinguency cases last year? Our Community Prosecution Division has developed Choices Not Chances, an interactive online decision tree that teaches young people the consequences of good and bad decision making. Designed for youth ages 10 to 18, Choices Not Chances walks participants through scenarios involving gangs, bullying, and dating



violence and highlights the positive and negative outcomes of their choices in each situation.

Representatives from our office can present this activity to a group, or educators and parents can access the presentation and scripts on our website to walk through with classes or their family. To learn more, please contact us at MCPO@Indy.gov.

# Free crime prevention programs

Offered by the Marion County Prosecutor's Community Prosecution Division

Schedule a presentation at: (317) 327-3522 or MCPO@indy.gov

**Burglary and property crime prevention:** Protecting your home and vehicle from crime.

# Power Against Fraud presentation for seniors:

Elder fraud and scam prevention for seniors.

#### **Project CyberSafe:**

Educating children and parents about the dangers of online behavior and legal consequences of cyberbullying.

Choices Not Chances: Teaching youth the consequences of choices through scenarios involving gangs, bullying, and dating violence. Educators and parents can also access the presentation and scripts online at www.indy.gov/MCPO to use with classes or their family.

**Gang education:** Recognizing gang activity and what to do to keep children out of gangs.

#### **Other Services**

#### **Child Support Enforcement:**

For assistance in the establishment, enforcement and modification of court ordered child support, please call (317) 327-1800.

# **Adult Protective Services**

**Hotline:** Report endangered adults to (877) 284-0063.

Connect with us @MCProsecutors







A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.